

CONTACT:

MODERNIZE YOUR HOLIDAY WRAPPING

Does this scenario sound too familiar? After the unwrapping frenzy, someone in your household grabs a plastic trash bag and fills it with balled up wrapping paper, plastic bows and ribbons.

It's time to stop to that wicked old-fashioned way to clean up the wrap! It will just end up in a landfill or incinerator when nearly all of that stuff is recyclable.

This year, try grabbing a brown paper leaf and yard waste bag and write "Extra Paper Recycling" on it. Fill that and place it next to your paper recycling bin on collection day. Make sure that it's filled with just paper and cardboard. Throw away any bows, ribbon, and plastic packaging.

Cardboard packaging and corrugated cardboard shipping boxes can be recycled as well. Be sure to flatten all boxes before recycling them. Remove all unrecyclable packing materials such as bubble wrap and foam peanuts.

If you choose to wrap with paper, make sure you are using paper! A lot of wrapping paper these days is made of mylar or metallics, which cannot be recycled.

Embellish gifts with creative flair. Try using a sprig of holly or evergreen. A fresh flower is beautiful and can be composted later. Opt for reusable decorations like personalized ornaments or smaller gifts.

Better yet, skip the paper that you will use only once and opt for gift bags. They are beautiful, come in a huge variety of sizes and designs, and can be reused for many years. If you choose plain colors, you will be able to reuse them for other gift-giving occasions. So many people prefer the bags because they are quicker than wrapping and require less skill than traditional gift wrapping.

For other gift wrapping ideas, search the internet and be creative!

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